

THE LABOUR ORGANISER

No. 186

DECEMBER, 1936

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MONTH BY MONTH

FULL HOUSE. A month or two ago we drew attention to the fact that some hundreds of Labour candidates were now to be found, who at some time during the Party's post-war history had unsuccessfully fought at a Parliamentary election. Taking list for list, Labour, since 1918, has developed a longer list of unsuccessful ex-Parliamentary candidates than either of the other two Parties; and today the big herd is lowing pretty loudly for a place within the fold. One wonders what is to be done about the matter.

AND EMPTY ONES. We do not begrudge any of the sympathy we have previously expended on the misfortunes of these fighters, who, having fought and lost in hopeless fights, not unnaturally look to securing a better prospect and a happier result next time. Everybody, we should think, appreciates the courage of those who fight forlorn hopes, or who filled up in those places where one simply did not expect to win. The trouble is that today these people are so thick upon the ground, and they all want the few "certs." To be in the fashion, lots of our friends are turning round to blame the natural scapegoat for this sort of thing, i.e., the National E.C. And every time somebody is selected for a good seat, the crowd goes again for the National E.C. to blame them for the selection. It is time there was some commonsense put into this question. We ourselves are sick of the enquiries of candidates who will fight nothing but "dead certs," though we are equally tired of the enquiries of constituencies for new Messiahs and standard bearers made to specification. The specifications are nearly always those which Cabinet Ministers only could comply with.

TO LET NOTICES. In every area in the country the more difficult constituencies find it hard to get candidates, yet the Labour Movement today has abundant man and woman power for all the seats there to be fought. We want a stop called to the scrambling for the best place; and anyway, the best places are all taken. What is wanted is a realisation of these facts by those who aspire to a Parliamentary candidature. What is also wanted is a new determination on the part of possible candidates and constituencies to make the most of one's opportunities all round, and to begin the job as soon as possible. Candidates who seek after the best places may get disappointed, but those who go in and work to win are the likeliest to receive reward.

The National E.C. of the Labour Party has no responsibility for the present situation, and candidates who have no stomach for the fight, or only stomach for a fight where there is a certainty of winning, only clutter up the ground. They ought to get out of the way. Their names should be cleared from the possible list, and new men and women invited to step into their shoes. Victory comes only to the brave, and there are brave ones in the Labour Party if they will only step forward.

COMING CLOSER. Every year for some years, and sometimes twice a year, the Labour Party has organised a series of Area Conferences to deal with this or that matter. We have at times been sceptical of the value of some of these conferences, and on the other hand we have sometimes felt that a new series of conferences was begun before a previous set of conferences had fulfilled their usefulness. However, it seems to us

that a useful decision has been come to by the National E.C. of the Labour Party in deciding to call a series of conferences of Constituency Parties to deal with proposed amendments to the Party constitution and other matters of interest. The National E.C. will find that there is plenty of matter to be discussed. Though it is true that there has been some engineered agitation, it is equally true that that agitation had some grounds to go upon, and but for it, it is possible that these conferences would not have been suggested. A few years ago there were the same symptoms of unrest in the Party in the country. One hardly attended a meeting at that time but one heard criticisms of our leaders; the Party's own Organisers had their work cut out to deal with the situation in the constituencies. The trouble on that occasion was policy. After 1931 the National E.C. met the Movement up and down the country at what were virtually a series of inquests, and the Party got to work on new plans and a clear-cut policy. At Leicester, at Hastings and at Southport there was

evidence that the Party was pulling itself together and becoming more closely knit. Since then the tendency has been the other way.

THE MATTER IS In that remark we are not referring to decisions arising out of questions of policy. Indeed, though we admit that there sometimes seems a cleavage along the lines of Left and Right—the constituencies going Left, and the National E.C. and the Unions going Right—that, we believe, is not the real trouble the National E.C. will have to deal with at their Area Conferences. Something else is at the root of things. Party structure is being challenged. Let us look at this matter. At the reconstruction of the Party after the war there were few Constituency Parties, but there was a mighty Trades Union Movement—the affiliation in 1920 was twice the size of that today. But since that time a great network of definite political machinery, i.e., Local Parties, have spread throughout the land. There has been immense sacrifice, and none too much apprecia-

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tion of it, among our Trades Union colleagues. The expenditure in the constituencies, raised in the constituencies, much exceeds the national expenditure found by Trades Unions, and notwithstanding this there is always a constriction of money. The trouble with the constituencies today is that the keenest workers are beginning to say that their part of the Movement is equal in weight and volume and quality to that which comes into the Movement via national affiliation, and that therefore corresponding weight should be accorded them in the National Councils of the Party. There is at the same time a reaction against the drudgery of money-raising and a feeling that things could be better done. This, as far as we can size the position up fairly and impartially, reflects the gist of such legitimate discontent as exists in Local Labour Parties today. If that can be met fairly and squarely a new era of united effort is possible, and the Party can face with confidence the issue of the next election.

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PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

"What Labour Has Done for London." Price one penny. London Labour Publications, Ltd., 258/262, Westminster Bridge Road, London, S.E.1.

A good tale well told with fact and illustration. Apart from the cover, however, and a pleasing picture of Herbert Morrison, the lay-out rather reminds one, especially page 16, of somebody's advertisement of Lung Tonic or Little Liver Pills. But perhaps provincials haven't caught the latest style; anyway, provincials ought to read this pamphlet, for there is an example to be followed.

"The Witchcraft Trial in Moscow." Price twopence. Labour Publications Department, Transport House, S.W.1.

This unhappily titled and funerally dressed pamphlet, is written by Friedrich Adler, and we suppose it should be read as an antidote to the pamphlet entitled the "Moscow Trial, 1936," to which we referred in our October issue. These controversies leave us, and, we think, the mass of the Movement, cold. But if we don't read them we are ill-informed; if we do read them we are depressed.

"Tomorrow" (Spanish Bulletin, December, 1936). Price one penny. Lawrence and Wishart, 2, Parton Street, London, W.C.1.

A very well done piece of war propaganda, which appears to be of Communist origin. Its purpose is, of course, to excite the passions of its readers in favour of the Spanish Government, and as war propaganda it does its sponsors credit. Who finds the money for this sort of thing, we wonder? Anyway, we recognise the paper for what it is, and if Labour folk are fools enough to be stampeded by it, so much the worse for Socialism in this and every country.



LAW AND PRACTICE



BRIBERY AND TREATING

A very earnest worker in the Party recently sent to us an affidavit sworn by a person who had seen what was alleged to be improper treating during a recent local election.

The evidence was that a candidate approached the bar and asked two persons who were there what they would like to drink. Both of them had a drink at this candidate's expense. The statement does not disclose whether the persons whose drinks were paid for were friends of the candidate, or electors, nor does it assign any reason for the candidate's generosity.

We are asked on this statement to say if it is strong enough to have any effect if passed along to the Public Prosecutor. Our correspondent tells us that this drink question is a curse in his constituency, and is getting worse, and that something must be done to stop it.

As this happens to be the fifth time during the past six weeks that we have been asked either by letter or personally to give our advice on similar circumstances, we think it as well to put before our readers a statement of the law on this question. Right away, let us say that the circumstances related by our correspondent are *not* sufficient for action to be taken.

There are two offences, viz., Bribery and Treating, both of them corrupt practices, which may be alleged when one person, particularly a candidate, during an election pays for the refreshment of an elector. It is not generally known that the recipient may be equally guilty.

The offence of bribery is quaintly and voluminously laid down with endless repetition and meticulous reiteration in the *Corrupt and Illegal Practices Act, 1883*, which itself is a re-enactment of a much older statute.

Here is a sample of the provisions, and there are five more which are designed to bung up any leakage or evasion.

"Every person who shall, directly or indirectly, by himself, or by any other person on his behalf, give, lend, or agree to give or lend, or shall offer, promise, or promise to procure or to endeavour to procure, any money, or valuable consideration, to or for any voter, or to or for any person on behalf of any voter, or to or for any other person in order to induce any voter to vote, or refrain from voting, or shall corruptly do any such act as aforesaid, on account of such voter having voted or refrained from voting at any election."

Now examine that clause. Leaving aside the question that a drink may not be a "valuable consideration," it must be proved that the drink was given in order to induce the voter to vote or to refrain from voting, etc. All acts of bribery must spring from a corrupt motive. It is not sufficient to prove that a voter has been given money. It must be proved that the voter was given money or the "valuable consideration" corruptly. Were this not so, the giving of a tip to a waiter during an election, or the most innocent acts in every-day life might become dangerous. The motive is all-important, and it is not always easy to prove.

The offence of treating is really that which is alleged by our correspondent. Here is the statutory definition of treating.

"Any person who corruptly by himself or by any other person, either before, during, or after an

election, directly or indirectly gives or provides, or pays wholly or in part the expense of giving or providing, any meat, drink, entertainment or provision to or for any person, for the purpose of corruptly influencing that person or any other person to give or refrain from giving his vote at the election, or on account of such person or any other person having voted or refrained from voting, or being about to vote or refrain from voting at such election, shall be guilty of treating.

"And every elector who corruptly accepts or takes any such meat, drink, entertainment or provision shall also be guilty of treating."

Let us now look at that section, and in the first four words one discovers the snag. That word "corruptly" affords the loophole for the offender in nine cases out of ten.

Who shall say that the Tory candidate our correspondent cites paid for those drinks with a corrupt motive? There is no proof of this in the statement sent to us, which relates to what is, after all, but a common incident in public houses. A visitor comes in, and out of generosity pays for those who may be standing in the bar. Even if one has reason to believe that the desire for popularity prompted the candidate, that desire to be friendly and well thought of in various quarters is not of itself a corrupt motive, unless, and until, it can be shown that the treating was general, or that there was a specific motive in giving drinks to the two persons mentioned.

That general treating goes on in many elections is beyond dispute; that specific acts of bribery and treating are perpetrated by some candidates, or on their behalf, is equally beyond dispute; but to bring home these offences to the offenders is a particularly difficult thing to do.

However grave the suspicion, it is not sufficient to get isolated sworn statements from those who have seen drinks paid for; Labour supporters must be prepared to collect far stronger evidence and to take note also of current circumstances and surrounding incidents.

Thus, to distribute election literature in the public house, to tout for votes, or to do one of half a dozen things while paying for drinks might stamp the offender's conduct as within the law. At the same time, don't let us raise false hopes that these things

can be stamped out with ease, or that it is a simple matter to prosecute an offender once an offence is committed. Labour effort is, after all, better expended in putting a higher ideal before the electors, and in making Tory candidates ashamed of their associations and conduct.

Additional Candidatures Endorsed by N.E.C.

25th November, 1936

BEDS. : Luton.—Mr. F. I. Kerran, 17, Rudall Crescent, London, N.W.3.

DERBY : High Peak.—Mr. R. W. Wright, Barn Cottage, Colly Lane, Buxworth, Stockport, Cheshire.

DEVON : Plymouth Drake.—Mr. R. J. Watson, 22, Third Avenue, Hove, Sussex;

Tavistock.—Mr. J. Finnigan, "Lansbury," Hooe, Nr. Plymouth.

ESSEX : East Ham North.—Mr. T. W. Burden, 27, Deyncourt Gardens, Upminster, Essex.

ISLE OF ELY.—Mr. James P. Lunnon, Beacon Lodge, Edlesborough, Dunstable, Beds.

LANCS : Chorley.—Mr. Albert Law, 65, Starcliffe St., Gt. Lever, Bolton. Ormskirk.—Mr. F. V. King, Netherton House, Netherton, Nr. Liverpool.

LEICESTER : Loughborough.—Dr. M. Follick, 65, New Bond St., W.1.

LONDON : S.E. St. Pancras.—Dr. S. W. Jeger, 79, New North Rd., N.1 ; Wandsworth, Putney.—Miss H. Keynes, 8/49, Roland Gardens, S.W.7 ; Wandsworth, Streatham.—Mr. A. M. Skeffington, "Erewhon," 64, Norbury Hill, S.W.16.

MIDDLESEX : Enfield.—Mr. W. J. Miller, 36, Bathgate Rd., Wimbledon, S.W.19 ;

Harrow.—Mr. M. S. Davidson, 36, Albert Palace Mansions, Battersea Park, S.W.11.

NORTHANTS : Daventry.—Mr. Henry Whittaker, 9, Radnor Rd., Birmingham, 20.

OXFORD : Oxford.—Mr. P. C. Gordon-Walker, 14, Museum Rd., Oxford.

SURREY : Wimbledon.—Mr. Tom Braddock, 21, Carlton Rd., Putney, S.W.15.

MON. : Newport.—Mr. Peter Freeman, 3, Rectory Rd., Cardiff.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—Readers should please note that the following and last month's alterations are to the lists of names contained in the newly-published L.P. Annual Report. Taken in conjunction with that report our alterations month by month present an up-to-date list of secretaries at any time.

LABOUR PARTY DIRECTORY

KEY TO INDEX LETTERS REPRESENTING LABOUR PARTY ORGANISING DISTRICTS.

A	North-Eastern District	F	South-Western District
B	North-Western District	G	Eastern District
C	Midlands District	H	Wales
D	Southern and Home Counties District	J	Scotland
E	London District	K	Universities

KEY TO NATURE OF CONSTITUENCY.

(CD)	County Divisions	(DB)	Divisional Boroughs
(SB)	Single-membered Boroughs	(BD)	Borough Divisions
(DMB)	Double-membered Boroughs	(U)	Universities

CORRECTIONS RECORDED IN OUR LAST ISSUE

D₂ C₁₀₇ D₁₁₆ B₁₅₃ B₁₆₄ B₁₈₁ E_{226/27} E₂₂₇ E_{239/41} E₂₄₃ D₂₉₉
C₃₃₄ C₃₃₇ C₃₅₄ D₃₈₉ C₃₉₅ H₄₇₇ J₅₂₃ J₅₄₀

CORRECTIONS RECEIVED SINCE OUR LAST ISSUE

Index	Description	No.	Name of Organisation	Present Secretary and Address
G ₁₂	CD	Cambridge T.C.	Mrs. A. E. COBB, Tigh Bheag, Girton Rd., Cambridge, & D.L.P.	Mrs. A. E. COBB, Tigh Bheag, Girton Rd., Cambridge.
G _{85/88}	DB	W. Ham & Bow D.L.P.	Mr. F. C. HAYDEN, 14, Terrace Rd., Plaistow, London, E.13.	Mr. F. C. HAYDEN, 14, Terrace Rd., Plaistow, London, E.13.
D _{109/BD}		Portsmouth Central D.L.P.	Mrs. E. EASTON, 15, Cuthbert Rd., Fratton, Portsmouth, Hants.	Mrs. E. EASTON, 15, Cuthbert Rd., Fratton, Portsmouth, Hants.
D _{110/BD}		Portsmouth N. D.L.P.	Mr. J. J. MAHONEY, 78, Malins Rd., Portsmouth, Hants.	Mr. J. J. MAHONEY, 78, Malins Rd., Portsmouth, Hants.
C ₂₀₇	BD	Leicester S. D.L.P.	Miss D. BRALEY, 68, Regent Rd., Leicester.	Miss D. BRALEY, 68, Regent Rd., Leicester.
E _{228/31}	DB	Camberwell T. & L.C.	Mr. E. MIATT, Lansbury House, Camberwell Grove, London, S.E.5.	Mr. E. MIATT, Lansbury House, Camberwell Grove, London, S.E.5.
E ₂₈₀	BD	Westminster Abbey D.L.P.	Mr. A. E. BIGGS, 3, Rochester Row, Westminster, London, S.W.1.	Mr. A. E. BIGGS, 3, Rochester Row, Westminster, London, S.W.1.
G _{303/CD}		Kings Lynn D.L.P.	Mr. H. B. FISHER, C.C., Denman House, 112, Loke Rd., Kings Lynn, Norfolk.	Mr. H. B. FISHER, C.C., Denman House, 112, Loke Rd., Kings Lynn, Norfolk.
C ₃₉₀	BD	Aston D.L.P.	Mr. J. DUNKLEY, 112, William St., Lozells, Birmingham, 19, Warwicks.	Mr. J. DUNKLEY, 112, William St., Lozells, Birmingham, 19, Warwicks.
C ₃₉₅	BD	Handsworth D.L.P.	Mr. A. ROFF, 105, Wellington Rd., Handsworth, Birmingham, Warwicks.	Mr. A. ROFF, 105, Wellington Rd., Handsworth, Birmingham, Warwicks.
C ₃₉₇	BD	Ladywood D.L.P.	Mr. W. J. BARNETT, 3/24, Barford Rd., Rotton Park, Birmingham, 16, Warwicks.	Mr. W. J. BARNETT, 3/24, Barford Rd., Rotton Park, Birmingham, 16, Warwicks.
A _{437/8}	DB	Middlesbrough Central D.L.P.	Coun. A. H. COCKS, 66, Clifton St., Middlesbrough, Yorks.	Coun. A. H. COCKS, 66, Clifton St., Middlesbrough, Yorks.
A ₄₇₀	CD	Shipley D.L.P.	Mr. A. BUTTERFIELD, 5, Dallam Walk, Shipley, Yorks.	Mr. A. BUTTERFIELD, 5, Dallam Walk, Shipley, Yorks.
J ₅₂₈	CD	East Fife D.L.P.	Mr. F. BROWN, Makgill Rd., Springfield, Fife.	Mr. F. BROWN, Makgill Rd., Springfield, Fife.
J ₅₅₁	BD	Traderton D.L.P.	Mr. J. HAYES, 75, Pitlochry Drive, Glasgow, S.W.2.	Mr. J. HAYES, 75, Pitlochry Drive, Glasgow, S.W.2.
J ₅₅₄	CD	Hamilton D.L.P.	Mr. M. LYONS, 80, Hillside Crescent, Hamilton, Lanarkshire.	Mr. M. LYONS, 80, Hillside Crescent, Hamilton, Lanarkshire.

ON COMMISSION

SHALL WE PAY COLLECTORS?

The question frequently arises in Labour Party meetings whether or no commission shall be paid on contributions collected. Less frequently one hears the question raised of payment for the introduction of new members.

We have no patience for the purist who wants to say that all Party work should be voluntary, and who cannot approach this question from any other angle. That type of person is to be met with in abundance in Parties which have failed to make their mark, and often the objector to payment is unable to see the utter failure of his plan right under his nose.

Labour Parties pay rent; they pay affiliation fees; they pay agents, sometimes they pay secretaries and even treasurers and chairmen—then why not the collector, who brings grist to the mill?

The question whether or no collectors and others should be paid is a purely business one, and one which ought to be decided solely from that angle. Does it pay?

The question cannot be decided solely by reference to successful Parties with big memberships. In some of the largest Parties in the country the collectors are all voluntary, and in some cases there are 60 or 80 of them. Other Parties have found it necessary to reduce collectorship to a business basis, following the example of Industrial Insurance Societies. This plan has much to commend it.

The Party has now had a long experience of the endeavour to build membership. It has extended over many years, and the most frequent cause attributed for failure to build and hold membership is lack of voluntary collectors. Why this should be so it is not the purpose of this article to examine. The excuse or the reason given is there.

If, then, voluntary collectorship breaks down in so many Parties, is it not advisable to seek other methods? Let it be taken as an axiom, however, that no Party ought to begin paying for the collection of contributions until it has exhausted the possibilities of voluntary collection. That is because voluntary effort is the life

and soul of a political Party, and because there *ought* to be in every Party the spirit and the willingness which could carry on the collecting at a push.

Paid collectorships become desirable in our opinion, when it appears that the efforts of Party workers are too much concentrated in mere collecting, or that too many workers are taken from other functions to perform the collecting.

Any Party considering payment should disabuse its mind at once of the thought that a living can be got by any person collecting pennies from people's homes. That is a physical impossibility. Substantial collections, out of which a reasonable living can be obtained, are only possible where a high proportion of the membership pays monthly or quarterly, or where some of the collecting is done through sub-collectors.

We are frequently asked what commission ought to be paid. Ten per cent. is frequently mentioned, but then insurance offices pay 25 per cent., and nowadays an insurance agent picks up much bigger sums per house than would the Labour Party collector. If the intention is to make payment a fair requittal for service, 25 per cent. is not too much.

We advise that where any payment is agreed upon that this payment should not be made deductible by the collector. Collectors should always "pay in" in full, and such commission as is due to them should be then paid over. There is advantage in this method, and it considerably strengthens the employers' position at law, for after all, if a contract is entered into to pay anything at all, a legal relationship is established, which is far more satisfactory in operation than some of the circumstances which exist today. Members have a right to expect that their contributions are safeguarded, and a contract of service is an instrument to that end.

The more unusual problem of whether to pay for the introduction of new members is one on which some experience has been gained by certain Parties. More than one Party has experimented for a time in the em-

ployment of membership canvassers. We think that more could be done than is done by encouraging people with special abilities for canvassing to act in this capacity whether paid or unpaid.

Few Parties could afford to pay a canvasser for any length of time. Indeed, we think the best membership campaigns are those run by united Party effort. That is not to say we do not favour in certain circumstances some recompense being made for the introduction of members.

There are many Parties in the country who, being themselves deficient in the right type of worker, have available some person who could canvass for members for payment. If a productive vote is on hand, why not? Undoubtedly if a big effort is intended and the canvasser is in any way dependent on what he is doing for a living, a reasonable salary should be guaranteed. On the other hand, in most places it will be a question of commission.

Insurance Societies pay variously for the introduction of what is called new business. A common method is to

allow the agent the whole of the contributions for a given number of weeks. We believe that in some cases this payment is paid down, but that the agent must guarantee that the amount he receives down is ultimately paid by the member.

This form of payment may serve as some guide in deciding how to remunerate a part-time membership canvasser. It is not easy, or desirable, to suggest a scheme which would work equally well in all districts, and with every person.

It might not be a bad thing to allow the full payment for a new member to be spread over twelve months—one-quarter of the agreed payment being made each quarter. This scheme, of course, would not suit a person economically dependent on the income. In any case, Local Parties can consider the above remarks in the light of their own experience and circumstances. There are many parts of the country where a good membership could be secured, provided the effort was put into canvassing and afterwards translated into effective collecting.

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JACK CUTTER

UNMASKS ANOTHER B.F. ORGANISATION

I am thinking of forming a new organisation. Why not? All the best people are doing it and one must keep up with the times.

Let me see, what shall we call it? It must have the word "Front" in—every new organisation these days must be a "Front." The trouble is that competing organisations have pinched nearly all the "fronts" there are. Youth Fronts, Red Fronts, United Fronts, Popular Fronts, People's Fronts, etc., etc. It is really grossly unfair that one's choice should be so limited.

There are only a few "fronts" remaining. "Shop Front" won't do. "Shirt Front" is rather dicky; "Sea Front" is too barefaced. There remains only the "Bold Front" and that will have to do. So, Comrades, Join the Bold Front and point the way to the Party's salvation!

But, mind you, I'm not having just anybody as members of the Bold Front. Candidates for membership must pass a test to prove their fitness and to ensure disloyalty to the larger movement. This is most important. We cannot have members in the Bold Front who are imbued with the virus of loyalty.

Every intending member must show that he or she:

- Is willing to do anything under the sun for Socialism except work for it and pay for it.
- Is willing and able to criticise, with suitable invective, every National Executive except the National Executives of the C.P. and the Bold Front.
- Is opposed to Trade Unions having any say at all in forming Labour policy.
- Has evolved a fancy scheme for abolishing the T.U. block vote.
- Is an adept at shadow boxing fascism by advertising it all the time, but is unwilling to get to grips with it by building up a strong Labour Party in his or her own division and ward.

Having passed this test you will be an eligible and typical member of the Bold Front. The finer points which

characterise the ideal member will come to you later with a little practice. You will, for instance, soon pick up the habit of writing letters to the "New Statesman" to show what is wrong with the Labour Party.

You will, of course, take a Liberal newspaper. That is almost essential. The *News Chronicle* or the *Daily Worker*. Both are good Liberal organs, well suited to those who can pass the above test.

The "stinking fish" practice, so popular among our members, is another little detail you will soon acquire. It means that you must unceasingly go about telling everybody you come in contact with that the Labour Party is no good; is run by bosses, and doesn't know its own mind. This practice is the hall-mark of the really ideal member.

The work of members of the Bold Front during elections is most important. They must sit at home criticising the Labour candidate, especially to canvassers of all Parties. They must refuse to do any canvassing themselves, though they may, after making a song about it, reluctantly agree to address a few envelopes, provided somebody brings them to their houses and collects them again when finished. (Of course, members will see to it that the envelopes are never finished when called for the first two or three times.)

Members of the Bold Front are permitted to vote for the Labour candidate on polling day, but only after a great show of doubt and hesitation shown particularly to wavering neighbours.

After the defeat Bold Fronters should turn up in full strength to the next Party meeting and criticise the organisation of the election campaign. Particular attention should be drawn to the lack of workers. Every B.F. (don't misunderstand me, I mean Bold Fronter) must conclude a long, critical speech with these words: "Labour will never win elections until we have a Bold Policy." This will invariably bring cheers and serve as a useful advertisement for the Bold Front.

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SOCIETIES, CLUBS, Etc.

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Bold Policy should be a continuous effort on the part of B.F.'s. It is necessary, however, to warn our members never to attempt to state what a Bold Policy is. Our movement must be elastic and flexible, capable of instant *volte faces* to suit the expediency of the moment. We must beware the hide-bound outlook and the slavish adherence to essential principles.

Besides, nobody knows what a Bold Policy is, anyway. It sounds well, that's the main point.

So, in the vital interests of disunity, disloyalty, disruption and despair, Join the Bold Front today! Become a B.F. now! It is useless to ask for subscriptions, for no B.F. ever pays his subs. Let us link up in one organisation, working inside the movement, everyone who does not know what he or she wants and won't be happy till he or she gets it. Our colours are red streaked with all the colours of the rainbow. Our badge is neat and effective. It consists of a hand with the fingers extended, the thumb joining on to a nose (rampant). We have no official organ as yet, but it won't be long before we do.

If you can pass the test at the beginning of this manifesto, there is room in the B.F.'s for you. Indeed, you are already a B.F. if you only knew it.

If, however, you refuse to pass the test: if you hold the view that the Labour movement is the traditional and only possible machine to accomplish the Socialist democracy; and if, with that faith strong in you, you are more concerned with strengthening its influence, power, effectiveness, membership, organisation and prestige, then you are no B.F. and cannot join our organisation.

HINTS ABOUT THE CHILDREN'S PARTY

BY MINNIE PALLISTER

If you don't want the children's party to turn into a riot, *don't* give them rich and sticky, messy foods, and *do* give them something to do.

Children love sandwiches, which are cheap and easy to eat, and they love buns in quaint shapes, animal biscuits, etc. Little jellies set in orange peel are festive, and a cracker helps a lot. Rough games soon get them out of hand, much better to have simple competitions with a tiny prize like a

pencil or india-rubber, a small ball or top.

Older ones can be given a long word like "ornamentation," and given ten minutes to make the most little words out of it.

A tray of articles, about twenty, can be brought in, left for five minutes, then taken away, and the children given paper and pencil to make a list of what they can remember.

Another fine start is to place twenty small objects, like a thimble and reel of cotton, pencil, piece of string, clothes-peg, tiny brush, bottle of ink, needle, pin, knife, paper knife, ruler, etc., about the room, but not out of sight, and let the children go round without moving anything to make a list of what they can see. Guessing games are always popular, and simple charades when the children act well-known proverbs. A tactful mother tries to see to it that each child wins something, or at least is consoled with a balloon or penny doll.

Another simple competition which is good fun, is pinning the tail on the donkey. A picture is put on a board and the children are blindfolded, led to the board, and have to pin its tail on.

Another very quiet but thrilling competition is to let the children sit in two rows facing each other. They put their feet together and stick them out. An orange is placed on the feet of the leader of each row, and it has to be passed from one player to another. Each time it falls, the orange has to start again. In this case the winning side could each have a tiny prize.

If a large table is available a string can be fixed across the middle, and a balloon blown backwards and forwards, the sides scoring "goals." Another balloon game is for each child in turn to carry a balloon on a wooden spoon the length of the room and get it into a flowerpot at the end. Anything which requires skill holds children's attention. It is worth while making a little bran tub, so that each child may have a dip; the presents need not cost more than a halfpenny or so each.

One golden rule for children's parties is to remember that the way to a child's heart is *not* through its stomach! Children love fun far more than food, so don't do your child out of its party because you can't spend a lot.

(From "The Land Worker" with acknowledgments)



QUESTIONS ANSWERED HERE

Does Husband's Employment Disqualify?

Question. I am writing to ask for your information as to the position of one of the members of the above Party.

The Women's Section are very anxious to nominate one of their members for the forthcoming Local Elections, the only doubt being this:

Her husband is employed on the Council, and she has been told that as she is a partner in the wages he earns she cannot be a local government candidate.

I would therefore be very pleased if you will give me your ruling on this question.

Answer. The question now asked is a perennial one. Prior to the Local Government Act, 1933, this matter was not altogether free from doubt, though we invariably gave it as our opinion that the employment of one spouse did not disqualify the other spouse. In this view we were supported by Sir H. Slesser (now Lord Justice Slesser and formerly Standing Counsel to the Labour Party).

In our opinion the Local Government Act, 1933, clarifies the position.

Section 59 of the above Act lays down the disqualifications for office. The Act swept away the old disqualifications attaching to interest in contracts (just as it smoothed out any variation of rule or phraseology between different classes of Local Government elections and applied the same Act to all of them). The Act does not disqualify husband or wife because of the employment of the other spouse.

But interest in contracts is still a matter of which the law takes cognisance. Section 76 of the Act deals with this matter, and it is laid down that

a member of a local authority having any pecuniary interest, direct or indirect, in any "contract or proposed contract or other matter" shall not take part in any discussion or vote on such matter, and must disclose his interest as soon as practicable at the meeting.

It would seem that employment is an "other matter" within the meaning of this Section.

The Act lays down that in the case of married persons living together the interest of one spouse shall, if known to the other, be deemed to be the interest of the other spouse. In other words, the wife of a husband employed by the Council would not be disqualified, but on any question affecting the husband's employment she must neither vote nor speak.

This procedure is by no means a satisfactory one from Labour's point of view. Wide differences of opinion still exist as to what constitutes pecuniary interest, and this section of the Act has been used to cripple Labour Councillors in their connection with the Co-operative Movement. Though a Tory Act, we do not think that this was the intention of the authors.

What is equally unsatisfactory is that interest in a contract by a Councillor need not be disclosed at all if the interested Councillor is absent from the meeting of the local authority at which the matter is the subject of consideration.

T.U. Fees—How Paid

Question. A correspondent enquires for a copy of the rules governing the payment of affiliation fees by Trades Unions to Local Labour Parties. It is pointed out that a certain large Union has in the past paid their fees direct to Divisional Secretaries, but

a number of delegates now recommend that the fees be sent to Local Parties. We are asked to say whether, assuming that it is decided to pay fees to Local Parties, the money should first be paid over from the central funds of the Trades Union to its own Branch Secretary, or be paid direct to the Local Party Secretary?

Answer. The latter part of the question does not really arise, because as will be seen presently, Labour Party rules provide in every case for the payment of Trades Union affiliation fees direct to Divisional Labour Parties through, of course, the appropriate Party officer.

Which officer of the Trades Union pays the money is, strictly speaking, no concern of the Labour Party, though it is obvious that local convenience might enter into the matter. If there is one local branch of the Trades Union in the area of the Divisional Party, it may be convenient for the Trades Union Head Office to pay its fees through that Branch, but if there are several branches it may be more convenient for the Union to pay its fees direct to the Divisional Party instead of through its Branches. Neither procedure, however, can be uniform, because the rules of Trades Unions differ in the matter.

Most sets of the model rules in force in the Labour Party make exact provision for the payment of fees. In the case of Set A—for single and undivided borough constituencies, no question can possibly arise, and fees are merely mentioned as being due "to this Party."

In the case of Divisional Parties in County Divisions it is expressly laid down that affiliation fees should be paid to the Financial Secretary of "this Party." Set C rules, which are applicable to Local Parties within the area of a Set B Divisional Party, have a rule which is in compliance with the above stated position.

As to Divided Boroughs, the rules Sets D and E follow the precedent of Sets B and C, and the affiliation fees are payable to the Central or Borough Party.

It should be pointed out that in Set A rules no provision is made for any division of income with Ward Committees, this being obviously a question of local arrangement. Rules B and C provide for a fifty-fifty division of income between the Divisional and Local organisations. In the case

of Borough Parties and divided Borough constituencies, the percentages are left open for local arrangement.

ANSWERS IN BRIEF.

Starting a Local Paper. F.L., Lancs.

—We have sent you per post three or four samples of current Local Labour monthlies. Our advice is try to walk before you fly; also get in touch with Ripley Printing Society, Ltd., 33, Nottingham Road, Ripley, who cater for a large number of Local Parties, and who could offer suggestions.

Scenery for Bazaars. A. Mc., Manchester.—Hiring scenery or special effects for your Bazaar may prove expensive. It is, however, expenditure which, coupled with good advertisement, returns its cost times over. We suggest that you write putting your needs before Messrs. Womersley & Co., Ltd., 56, Woodhouse Lane, Leeds, 2. This firm specialises in this sort of thing. Mention the "L.O."

The "Land Worker." J.E.W., Broadway.—We quite approve of your desire to assist in forming a Branch of the Agricultural Workers' Union. Write to their Head Office about it. The "Land Worker" is the official organ of this Union, and is priced twopence monthly. Editor, H. B. Pointing. The address is that of the Union, i.e., Headland House, 308, Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C.1.

Quires and Reams. L.F.T., York.—Every schoolboy knows that a quire is 24 sheets. It is not accurate to say that a ream consists of twenty quires. The old-fashioned ream *does* consist of 480 sheets, but there are also reams of 500 sheets, 504 sheets, 516 sheets, 472 sheets, etc. Practice is slowly settling down to reams of 500 sheets.

Who's Who? R. E., Plymouth.—We are sorry that the "Labour Who's Who?" ceased publication several years ago. We believe the last edition was in 1928. Here is an opportunity for some up-to-date Labour printing house. But the collection of the information is no mean task.

Peace Pledge Union. Miss I.M., Bristol.—The policy of the Peace Union is not, as you suppose, mere negation. We cannot deal with the

matter here, but we advise you to send, say, one shilling in stamps and ask to be supplied with specimen pamphlets. Address: Peace Pledge Union, 96, Regent Street, London, W.I.

Proportional Representation. M.C., Birmingham.—The address of the Proportional Representation Society is 82, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

Mr. George Horwill's book was entitled "Proportional Representation" (it was against the proposal) and was published by George Allen and Unwin. We have no record of the price.

Free Schoolrooms. Miss N.W., Newcastle.—A candidate at *any* Local Government election is entitled to the use of a suitable room in *any* public elementary school situated in the area. The Local Government Act, 1933, Section 69, is the appropriate reference. The Act does *not* sanction any interference with the hours during which the school is used for educational purposes.

Election Petitions. A.E.B., London.—Reports of the hearing, or at any rate the decisions of the Judges in election petitions are published. They are, however, expensive, and we believe an up-to-date list of reports would cost somewhere between £7 and £8. Write to Messrs. Sweet and Maxwell Ltd., Law Publishers, 3, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2, and ask for a complete list of "O'Malley and Hardcastle's Election Reports."

Law of Municipal Elections. E.B., Stoke-on-Trent.—A later edition of Arnold's "Law of Municipal Corporations" is available than that one which you appear to have consulted. The seventh edition has been on sale for a year or more.

Agricultural Pamphlets. H.E., Hants.—We do not agree that pamphlets on agricultural problems are the only ones, nor even always the proper ones, to sell in agricultural districts. The countryman can be as keenly interested in economic and social problems as anybody else. It is a townsmen's delusion to suppose that the dweller in the country dreams only of pigs and poultry.

However, here is the list you ask for: "Land and the National Planning

of Agriculture," price twopence, The Labour Party; "How Labour Will Save Agriculture," price twopence, The Labour Party; "Labour and the Land," price one penny, The Labour Party; "What Labour Has Done for Agriculture" (George Dallas), price one penny, The Labour Party; "The Economic Planning of Agriculture" (Sir Stafford Cripps), price one penny, The Labour Party; "A New Deal for the Farm Worker" (John Dugdale), price one penny, The Labour Party.

THAT LABOUR MONTHLY

FROM A NEW CUSTOMER :

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The above is a quite unsolicited testimonial from a London Labour Party secretary and agent, who has Fleet Street journalist experience.

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LABOUR NEWS SHEETS*

Number 2 of the "Sunderland Labour News" is to hand—this being yet another local monthly published with the co-operation of our advertisers the Ripley Printing Society, Ltd.

This latest paper consists of eight pages and judging from the advertisement revenue it should have a long life. Congratulations and good wishes.

HINTS ON PRODUCING A DUPLICATED NEWS SHEET

Again and again we hear of enthusiastic local friends who express the intention of running their *own* local news sheet, though it be only run off on the duplicator. *Honi soit qui mal y pense*—for does not the Labour Party itself duplicate its "Labour Press Service" and the mighty T.U.C. send out its "Industrial News" in similar form?

But what heroes there are in Local Parties, and what greater heroes would they consider themselves did they but know the task to which they lightly set their hand. The number of the fallen is legion. They live a day and are gone. Though some survive—as witness the "Labour Organiser," which duplicated its first issue, and is now a lusty sixteen years.

In truth, however, of all the ill-born babes in newspaperdom, commend us to the duplicated sheet. We have seen some horrors; and not the least of them during the general strike of 1926.

Frankly, readers, we prefer the printed sheet every time. It's not so much dearer if you *will* confine yourself to reasonable space. And it is infinitely more likely to be read. We admit there is not the joy in handing over one's work to the printers' tender mercies, that there is in cluttering up the house or the office with spoilt stencils, waste paper, ink marks and swear words.

Still, it is argued, even Rome had a beginning once—though that's not the best example to take. The "Daily Herald" began once, too. It was a long time ago, and it was a rebel inspired sheet. Just look at it now!

And so, my hearties, let's get down to this job of producing No. 1. One must presume that the tailors of Tooley Street have done their work, and that the "copy," streets too much of it, has come to hand.

Now there is one art in editorship that all who bear that honour must learn—or abdicate. Steel the heart to slaughter. There is no joy on this earth, nor, we trow, beyond the grave, like that of an editor when he excises the best born phrases of the budding blighter who has brought, or sent, the latest screed to the high altar.

In other words, be merciless in cutting out what one cannot afford to print. Resist the temptation to expand the size of one's paper or contract the print. Give due measure to the reader. It is downright bad business to try to squeeze in something just because it is one's own child, or written by a scribe whom we would fain see on the pages of our print.

Let's get right about size first. Some duplicated sheets are just single sheets, sometimes printed fore and aft. This is not a very attractive proposition. We prefer a fold, even if one has to make a foolscap sheet do for a four, or even, as we once saw, an eight-page production.

The best attempts at duplicated newspapers are those with which coloured sheets are used to make the equivalent of a cover. In past years we have noted several of these in these columns.

Duplicating paper is available in quite a number of useful tints, and one has a choice at the commencement of deciding whether to change the tint of the cover with each succeeding issue, or to retain the same tint throughout.

If it is decided to retain some tint, it is always possible to run off the covers in advance for succeeding months, though this has its disadvantages, and we do not recommend it. Nor do we recommend the printed cover for the duplicated sheet—a course sometimes adopted. That always looks to us like putting the meat outside the sandwich.

One must make up one's mind how many sheets the little paper is to contain. As we have pointed out, available matter must not govern this, but questions like cost and time for duplicating must be considered. It is well to remember that readers will not read a lot of closely duplicated matter, nor too much of it at a time.

The ordinary office stapling machine is available for stapling the sheets together. The use of the little office appliance soon becomes tiresome, and a bigger stitching machine is required, and these cost money. On one occasion we saw foolscap sheets used for

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four-page productions, and several of them were inter-leaved and stitched in the centre with thread. This was loving help on the part of the women. It was not, we thought, so profitable or ultimately helpful to the Party as normal women's work.

Now there is the question to be considered whether to duplicate only on one side of the paper or on both sides. If the job can be done cleanly, by all means print on both sides the paper. There are, however, technical difficulties which the amateur should beware of. These arrive first with the stencilling, particularly if folded sheets are thought of, and a single stencil is to carry two pages for each side of the flat sheet. We hope our readers will understand what we mean.

The problems here will concern the depth of the typed matter, and it is a help if the stencil can be cut on a "brief" carrier. We are thinking of foolscap folded matter now, which, after all, is the only size of paper really adaptable for folded use.

In any case, backing a duplicated sheet calls for care; margins must be kept uniform, or the assembled sheets will look bad. Inking should be done sparingly all through, for with backed sheets, set-offs can cause extra annoyance.

The get up of the pages is a matter for careful planning. A magazine page man of the daily newspaper is wanted here: pity he is too busy for our venture.

Then always title one's journal attractively. A lot of scroll work and over-ornamentation is unnecessary. We are doubtful even of the value of attempted line work and illustration. Copy the front page title of the average daily, and one won't be far wrong.

The next decision is whether or no to "set" in column form or right across the page. The columns have it every time for neatness, and attractiveness, but cutting the stencil is a ticklish job, particularly if one has not too well calculated the space to be

taken by paralleled column articles. It is always better to proof one's paper on the typewriter before attempting to cut stencils.

Paging the paper is an advantage, but the novice early begins to feel the limitations of his typewriter in regard to sizes of type. For titles it is as well to early get accustomed to the use of the stylo. Personally, we do not care much for written titles. Hand printed titles look better and more dignified. One little paper we know of relieves the paragraphs by an initial dropped letter for each paragraph, the initial being styloed two and a half times the depth of the type.

We advise some variation in the get up, even single column all the way through gets tiresome. Make a break somewhere for either the top half or the bottom half of a page, and set one half that page full across the page. This, and the use of titles going across both columns will relieve the appearance.

Most novices soon feel the urge for illustration, and illustration, if it can be got, always attracts attention. In this regard don't forget that the duplicator firms are generally ready to come to one's aid regarding any problems either associated with the matters we have already mentioned or with illustration.

If left to one's own resources, it is best, until one has acquired practice, to stick to panel work. We have seen some good work of this sort in a little sheet which has reached us this month from Kennington (Agent, Mr. W. H. Hunt).

The variations in panelling that one can make with ruler and stylo are unlimited. Last, but not least, don't hurry either the stencilling, the running off or the collating. If the job is worth doing at all, it is worth doing well, though we confess that few men will be found to have the time to spare to produce a duplicated paper for many months. Get to print as soon as possible.

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Publishing Office, "LABOUR ORGANISER," 107 Dale End, Birmingham, 4

MR. CHAIRMAN—SIR!

A correspondent writes:—

Is it not time that in the Labour Movement we agreed on some form of address at public meetings which would meet all the requirements of the situation without causing (*a*) either a strain on the speaker and an injury to his self-possession, or (*b*) a titter among the audience.

There are a number of modes of address in common use. May I criticise them?

“Mr. Chairman”—This is a stilted form which seems to ignore the audience, and the speakers who use it seem generally to be young men in a hurry.

“Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen”—Doesn’t this rather infer that the chairman is neither a gentleman, and, of course, not a lady? And why do some of our people resent being called “Ladies and Gentlemen”?

“Mr. Chairman, and Friends”—Here again the chairman is left out in the cold. He is obviously not regarded as a friend.

“Mr. Chairman, and Comrades”—Again what has the chairman done that he is not a comrade?

“Comrades”—The man who uses this address has generally got some home truths to tell; comrades are going to get the rough edge of his tongue! He ignores the chairman, who generally has to call him to order. Besides, what about the people who are not comrades? Presumably they are not expected to listen.

“Mr. Chairman, Comrades and Friends”—The man who uses this address is, of course, the sort of fellow who would pour oil on troubled waters. He is “out” to catch all. But obviously the chairman is neither a comrade nor a friend?

“Friends”—Here again, we have an often-used address which ignores, or does it include, the chairman? But it seems rather out of place in a hostile meeting, particularly if Communist interruption is expected! The man who uses it generally has a large manner.

“Mr. Chairman, Fellow Workers”—The chairman is, of course, obviously not a fellow worker. This address sounds horribly democratic in these days of court dress and high distinctions. It isn’t done, you know.

“Fellow Citizens”—This is a favourite mode of address at the municipal elections, but it has a German ring about it. The chairman, of course, goes hang. Kindred to this address are—“Mr. Chairman, Citizens of ____” “Mr. Chairman, Electors of ____.” Both more suited to a printed election address.

It is when a lady is in the chair that our speakers mostly get boggled. Thus we get:—

“Dame Chair”—Quite stilted. And what if the lady is young?

“Madam Chair”—To which the same applies. What a pity we have not got in English the French equivalent of mademoiselle.

“Lady Chair”—Which comes awkwardly, and isn’t grammar.

Some of our speakers get over their difficulties by saying “Mrs. ____” or “Miss ____”, Ladies and Gentlemen” with, of course, the variations above mentioned—plus all the objections that there are to each.

But if in the Labour Party we get mixed what about some high-flown addresses I have heard on the other side? Here for instance:

“Mr. Chairman, My Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen”—which puts the lords before the ladies instead of after the gentlemen, as I would have it. Or—

“Mr. Chairman, Ladies, Lords and Gentlemen”—which is more courteous. I have even heard—

“Your Grace, My Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen”—which is, of course, beginning with the sublime and ending up by being ridiculous. But the plum must surely go to—

“My Lord Duke, may it please your Grace, Ladies, Lords and Gentlemen”—After which we have no spittle left.

(Reprinted from an old copy of the “L.O.”)

**Do ALL the officers
of your Party get the
“L.O.”?**

If not, why not?

**The “L.O.” wants
1,000 New Readers**

Will you help?

RUNNING A DRAW AND KEEPING TO THE LAW

This question has again cropped up in three or four communications which have been addressed to us. Every now and again some friend will send to this office a batch of papers he has issued, or proposes to issue, and ask for our opinion upon the legality of his venture.

If we were not good-natured folk in the "Labour Organiser" Office, we should tire of these reiterated enquiries. After all, we cannot answer them in the way our correspondents desire. Fools may rush in where angels fear to tread; but such persons will be neither lawyers or editors.

The fact is that tremendous uncertainty still exists, and each Draw or Sweep must be judged in its own background, and according to the facts of the particular case. And because there are such things as legal lotteries, lots of friends desire us to console them by so accepting their particular evasion of the law.

It is true that there are two forms of legal lottery—really three—two at any rate to concern us. But the point which always occurs to us is why a lottery at all?

There is no legal control of competitions in this country, where such competitions call for the exercise of skill, and are not entirely dependent upon chance.

Surely here is a wide enough field to those who desire to continue in the old way and "run a draw." Make it a "competition" and the trick is done! Surely if one is entitled to any proceeds at all from this form of sin it is not too much to earn the money by devoting a little pains at the start into framing a competition which will pass muster?

Somebody showed us the other day some tickets dealing with football matches. At first sight it was a pure guessing lottery. But give a football fan certain information, and certain records, and by applying his own knowledge, memory or skill, his forecast of a series of matches will be much nearer the mark than that of the person who depends upon chance or luck. And the competition referred to really was a game of skill—certainly for some entrants.

We have pointed out before that it is always possible to back one's protestation that a particular competition is a game of skill by supplying necessary data and information to participants. But please don't ask us to O.K. any such competitions. The pay and the prospects don't warrant our risk.

We will now deal with the Party which wants to enjoy the iniquity of a full-blooded lottery. For the law permits one to sin in private. Also one can sin in a *small* way, provided one sins, at a Church Bazaar, a Labour Party Fête, or in some place equally decorous. This reminds one of using bad language at home. One can cuss to eternity at one's own fireside, and use the vilest language at the family hearth, but one must not say such things in the hearing of an unsophisticated Bobby outside. For "the hass" hath ears and they mustn't be offended.

The safest way to run a draw is to bring it under the protection of the provisions relating either to private lotteries or to small lotteries. (Sections 23 and 24, Betting and Lotteries Act, 1934.)

A private lottery would, in the case of most Labour Parties, be the bigger affair of the two. The following three provisions should be specially noted:

1. Sales must be confined to members, and a statement must be printed on the ticket that such is the case.
2. The name and address of the promoter must be printed on the ticket; and
3. a statement should also be printed on the ticket that no prize will be paid to any person other than the person to whom the winning ticket was sold, and that no prize shall be paid or delivered except in accordance with that statement.

There are other provisions which will be seen from the section of the Act printed below.

Regarding the promoters, ordinarily the Secretary's or Entertainment Secretary's name can be used, though the names of the Committee would be quite proper. An agent who is not a member of the Party (and there are

such cases, where an agent lives outside the Division) could not be a promoter under the Act.

Small lotteries incidental to certain entertainments are not likely in the ordinary way to be very large, or to bring in much return. In the case of a big Bazaar, there may be opportunity for several draws or sweepstakes, but the ordinary opportunities at Party Socials, outings, etc., are not large.

The restrictions relating to small lotteries are rather more severe than those relating to private lotteries. In the case of a "small" lottery there must be no money prizes. There is no such restriction affecting the private lottery confined to one's organisation.

Though we have before printed the appropriate sections of the Act in full, the number of enquiries we are receiving justifies us in again reprinting Sections 23 and 24.

SECTION 23

EXEMPTION OF SMALL LOTTERIES INCIDENTAL TO CERTAIN ENTERTAINMENTS

(1) A lottery promoted as an incident of an entertainment to which this Section applies shall be deemed not to be an unlawful lottery, but the conditions specified in the next succeeding subsection shall be observed in connection with the promotion and conduct of the lottery, and, if any of those conditions is broken, every person concerned in the promotion or conduct of the lottery shall be guilty of an offence unless he proves that the offence was committed without his knowledge.

(2) The conditions referred to in the preceding subsection are that

(a) The whole proceeds of the entertainment (including the proceeds of the lottery) after deducting

(i) The expenses of the entertainment, excluding expenses incurred in connection with the lottery; and

(ii) The expenses incurred in printing tickets in the lottery; and

(iii) such sum (if any) not exceeding ten pounds as the promoters of the lottery think fit to appropriate on account of any expense incurred by them in purchasing prizes in the lottery, shall be devoted to purposes other than private gain.

(b) none of the prizes in the lottery shall be money prizes;

(c) tickets or chances in the lottery shall not be sold or issued, nor shall the result of the lottery be declared, except on the premises on which the entertainment takes place and during the progress of the entertainment; and

(d) the facilities afforded for participating in lotteries shall not be the only, or the only substantial, inducement to persons to attend the entertainment.

(3) The entertainments to which this section applies are bazaars, sales of work, fêtes and other entertainments of a similar character, whether limited to one day or extending over two or more days.

SECTION 24

EXEMPTION OF PRIVATE LOTTERIES

(1) In this Section, the expression "private

lottery" means a lottery in Great Britain which is promoted for, and in which the sale of tickets or chances by the promoters is confined to, either

(a) members of one society established and conducted for purposes not connected with gaming, wagering or lotteries; or

(b) persons all of whom work on the same premises; or

(c) persons all of whom reside on the same premises,

and which is promoted by persons each of whom is a person to whom under the foregoing provisions tickets or chances may be sold by the promoters and, in the case of a lottery promoted for the members of a society, is a person authorised in writing by the governing body of the society to promote the lottery.

For the purposes of this Section, the expression "society" includes a club, institution, organisation or other association of persons by whatever name called, and each local or affiliated branch or section of a society shall be regarded as a separate and distinct society.

(2) A private lottery shall be deemed not to be an unlawful lottery, but the following conditions shall be observed in connection with the promotion and conduct of the lottery, that is to say

(a) the whole proceeds, after deducting only expenses incurred for printing and stationery, shall be devoted to the provision of prizes for purchasers of tickets or chances or, in the case of a lottery promoted for the members of a society, shall be devoted either to the provision of prizes as aforesaid or to purposes which are purposes of the society or, as to part, to the provision of prizes as aforesaid and, as to the remainder, to such purposes as aforesaid;

(b) there shall not be exhibited, published or distributed any written notice or advertisement of the lottery other than

(i) a notice thereof exhibited on the premises of the society for whose members it is promoted or, as the case may be, on the premises on which the persons for whom it is promoted work or reside; and

(ii) such announcement or advertisement thereof as is contained in the tickets, if any;

(c) the price of every ticket or chance shall be the same, and the price of any ticket shall be stated on the ticket;

(d) every ticket shall bear upon the face of it the names and address of each of the promoters and a statement of the persons to whom the sale of tickets or chances by the promoters is restricted, and a statement that no prize won in the lottery shall be paid or delivered by the promoters to any person other than the person to whom the winning ticket or chance was sold by them, and no prize shall be paid or delivered except in accordance with that statement;

(e) no ticket or chance shall be issued or allotted by the promoters except by way of sale and upon receipt of the full price thereof, and no money or valuable thing so received by a promoter shall in any circumstances be returned; and

(f) no tickets in the lottery shall be sent through the post.

(3) If any of the conditions specified in preceding subsection is broken, each of the promoters of the lottery and, where the person by whom the condition is broken is not one of the promoters, that person also, shall be guilty of an offence:

Provided that it shall be a defence for a person charged only by reason of his being a promoter of the lottery to prove that the offence was committed without his knowledge.